

***REV. MATTHIAS FAUE, O.S.B.***  
***(ORDER OF ST. BENEDICT, BENEDICTINES)***

**DOCUMENTS PRODUCED BY THE ARCHDIOCESE OF LOS ANGELES 2013  
PURSUANT TO JCCP 4286 SETTLEMENT AGREEMENT**

**Vicar for Clergy Database**

Clergy Assignment Record (Detailed)

**Rev Mathias Faue, O.S.B.***Current Primary Assignment**Birth Date* 1/1/1901*Age:**Birth Place**Deanery:**Diaconate Ordination**Priesthood Ordination**Diocese Name**Date of Incardination**Religious Community* Benedictine Monks*Ritual Ascription* Latin*Ministry Status* Deceased*Canon State* Relig. Order Priest*Incard Process* ☐*Begin Pension Date**Seminary**Ethnicity* English**Fingerprint Verification and Safeguard Training***Date Background Check**Virtus Training Date***Assignment History**

<b>Assignment</b>	<b>Beginning Date</b>	<b>Completion Date</b>
Deceased	1/30/1988	
St. Benedict Catholic Church, Montebello Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	7/1/1983	1/29/1988
Left Archdiocese	11/4/1970	6/30/1983
St. Benedict Catholic Church, Montebello Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service	8/16/1965	11/3/1970
Our Lady of Lourdes Catholic Church, Los Angeles Associate Pastor (Parochial Vicar), Active Service, Start date absolutely not known	1/1/1901	8/15/1965

Phone 721-1184

Phone 723-2718

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH  
1022 W. Cleveland Ave.  
Montebello, California 90640

April 17, 1969

Dear Father REDACTED

I have waited for two weeks to decide to write this letter to you.  
It has to be done.

For the past three years I have not paid any particular attention to Father Mathias and his problem. In fact I have ignored it. But a few weeks ago it was brought to my attention again. The source is of three families and I have to accept it. Nothing has been said to Father Mathias. This was in part because the families have told me that things were quiet after his heart attack. But as his health improves I have noticed things that did not exist during the past few months.

I write you this because I intend to change most of the work of Father Mathias and REDACTED. I have had them doing the things I thought them capable to do. Now I will have to simply give ~~g~~ jobs on the basis of relation to children. If I change enough work for them my purpose may go unnoticed - but this may be futile. They will suspect something. I am sure that neither will complain about the changes either to you or to me.

In fact none of us tell you anything. If I mention that they are not doing what they could do, you talk to them and our relations are strained. I am sure that if they complain to you the same would happen. We all know that you will give advice but not make changes that might have a solution. For this reason I see no purpose in your speaking to Father Mathias. As long as we have to work together we should leave it as it is.

However, if this particular problem does not clear up after I make the change, perhaps you should replace Father Mathias. Or get one of the other Fathers to take my place. I'd be happy to transfer back to Oklahoma. Any time, any place.

Nothing will be done until Father REDACTED returns to Oklahoma. But I have to do something and this seems to be one move. If you have suggestions, I will be happy to listen.

18731

Sincerely in Christ,  
REDACTED

# Saint Gregory's Abbey

SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801

REDACTED

Dear Father REDACTED

April 21, 1969

Both of us are disappointed that Father Mathias did not overcome the problem. There is danger of bringing harmful discouragement into his life if we do not take a positive approach, seek professional help for him and give him a fair warning. For him this is not so much a moral problem as it is a psychological one.

You may find it very difficult to change his work without getting yourself into a serious bind and in the process you could upset a lot of people. And as for my changing him, my experience has been that this does not solve the problem it only shifts it from one place and from one group of people to another. Too often it wrecks the individual involved!

Personally I am not at all convinced, in this age of dialogue, that there will arise "strained relations" if you simply talk to him confidentially, confrere to confrere, that there have been complaints from reliable sources. You can tell him you find it difficult to believe but that you are anxious to be of help to him and do what you possibly can before someone writes to the REDACTED.

I am afraid we will be doing him a grave injustice and he will always resent it if this chance is not given him and we lower the boom after his next false move. Nothing is gained by keeping facts from him.

You have worked very patiently with him through the years, and for this I have always been most grateful, and no one has his confidence nor can give him the kind of help he now needs as you can. It is a serious mistake for him not to face up to this difficulty but he needs the good word and the guidance of a trusted confrere.

What you should do, if at all possible, is to go with him to a good psychologist. Because of the danger he is to the parish you can even insist, but it is necessary you take the initiative and make the appointment. This kind find it extremely difficult to take that first step by themselves. Once he has started these appointments it will not take him long to understand the nature of his problem and learn how to handle himself.

Never think for a moment he will hold this against you. You are approaching him as a confrere and a friend, and not as an authority figure. He will most sincerely appreciate the interest and the understanding you are showing him. Unless we manifest this kind of positive concern we run the risk of hearing what Cain heard: "What did you do to your brother?"

Please take early action and keep me informed. He merits the same kind attention in this illness as you so wonderfully manifested in his previous illness!

These are busy days for you and I hope all is intact in the rectory and parish by the time Fathers REDACTED and REDACTED are back on the plane! We are extremely grateful for the generous consideration you have shown them.

Fraternally in our Risen Lord,  
REDACTED

18734



## *Saint Gregory's Abbey*

1900 West MacArthur Drive  
SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801

REDACTED

May 16, 1983

His Eminence  
Timothy Cardinal Manning  
Archbishop of Los Angeles  
1531 W. 9th Street  
Los Angeles, CA 90015

Your Eminence:

After discussion with my Council, I humbly ask that you make the following appointments to parishes in the Archdiocese which are served by priests from St. Gregory's Abbey. I further ask that these appointments be effective on July 1, 1983.

REDACTED

Rev. Mathias Faue, O.S.B., to Associate Pastor of St. Benedict's Parish, Montebello. Father Mathias has served in the Archdiocese before, but most recently has been the Business Manager of St. Gregory's Abbey.

REDACTED

  
REDACTED

Thank you for your consideration of these appointments. Our community is pleased to be able to continue our services in the Archdiocese and plan to continue for as long as it is possible for us. We also are experiencing a declining number of priests entering our community. But our long association with the Archdiocese inclines us to continue our service if at all possible.

I have the honor to be. Your Eminence.  
REDACTED

19797

JUN 30 1983

## ON CHANGE LIST

May 19, 1983

REDACTED

REDACTED, Saint Gregory's Abbey  
 1900 West MacArthur Drive  
 Shawnee, Oklahoma 74801

REDACTED

His Eminence, Cardinal Manning, has confirmed the following assignments which you proposed in your letter of 16 May 1983.

BENEDICTINE MONKS (O.S.B.)

REDACTED

✓ 1 July 1983 Assoc. Pastor, St. Benedict, Montebello REDACTED  
 REV. MATTHIAS FAUE returning

REDACTED

We would kindly ask that Father REDACTED bring to the Chancery Office the financial books of the parish and school for audit.

Likewise we would request that Father REDACTED arrange an appointment with REDACTED to discuss matters pertaining to the administration of the parish. Once Father REDACTED has arranged the latter appointment, if he would telephone me I will make every effort to be available to him to take the oath required of newly appointed pastors in this jurisdiction.

It is recommended that pastors, within the first year of their assignment, attend the "Beginning as Pastor" program offered for new pastors. (Proposed by the Senate of Priests, October 12, 1981)

19796

*Confidential*

SAINT GREGORY'S ABBEY

SHAWNEE, OKLAHOMA 74801



February 22, 1985

Dear Father Mathias

Just a note to let you know the dates of the retreat, which is as you and others tried to tell me, May 27-31. We are looking forward to having you. I have tentatively listed you for the Mass on ~~Thursday~~ Friday. We will then renew our vows, you first, REDACTED second (25th) and then the rest of us.

On my arrival home, I found a letter from Msgr. Rawden accepting my evaluation of your situation, so they will permit you to remain in California. Needless to say, there should not be any further incidents. We would not be able to take them away again. I will pass on to you that some mentioned to me that you are a little free with your affections and use of hands with children on the school grounds. Please be careful. Certainly better safe than sorry.

All is well here. We have the day off for the ski trip. I need about a week to get caught up. See you in May.

18745

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH  
 1022 W. Cleveland Ave.  
 Montebello, California 90640  
 Phone 721-1184

March 12, 1985

Dear Father REDACTED

It saddens me to have to write you this, but I suppose you should know.

On Sunday, March 3, Sister REDACTED phoned me and said that a parent had gone to one of the school teachers and complained about Father Mathias the way he was touching the young boys--even touching their behinds. This teacher reported this to Sister REDACTED

Sister REDACTED called her brother, REDACTED and asked him if Fr. Mathias had a history of this. REDACTED simply told her to go to Father REDACTED and let him handle it. I don't know all the details, but it was, I believe, just touches outside the clothing, and the genitals were not touched.

I spoke to Father REDACTED about this matter on March 3, the same day. He said when he and the men were putting the "dish" on our roof, he noticed Mathias on the school ground, and he continually followed one particular kid around. The kid would move, and Mathias would follow him. Mathias often goes out on the school grounds when the kids are having sports games, etc.

The following day, Monday, March 4, in the presence of Fr. REDACTED, in our living room, I told Father Mathias that this complaint had been made about him by one of the parents of a school child. I told him that he should not touch any of the kids, not even put his hand on the kids shoulder, or around a kid's waist when he is standing near a child. Father Mathias said nothing, and this is where the matter stands. Sister REDACTED said the other day that the parent that complained had not come back to her about the matter.

There is such a big adoo going on at this time in the L. A. area about child abuse; I would hate to see Fr. Mathias get caught on something like this. Solution: if this happens one more time, Fr. Mathias should be asked to return to the Abbey.

Pray for all of us this Lenten Season.

18744

Fraternaliv  
 REDACTED



*Confidential*

March 18, 1985

Dear Father Mathias

I received the disappointing letter from Father <sup>REDACTED</sup> a couple days ago reporting the complaint of a parent regarding you and your actions with some of the children on the playground.

I was hoping to avoid this kind of problem with my note dated Feb. 22nd. Because the dates are so close, with the date of the complaint being sometime before March 3rd, there was probably not time for you to react and change your behavior. I trust that you have changed by this time and there will be no further incidents.

Father <sup>REDACTED</sup> has now informed me via his letter, that if there is one more incident he expects you to be recalled to the Abbey immediately. That should certainly be a clear warning.

You clearly have a problem, Father Mathias. It is time you seek some assistance. The incident at Prague that marred your celebration of your 25th anniversary of ordination, The recent incident in Long Beach, the question marks around your earlier service in California, these all indicate a continuing problem. You must face up to this and seek some assistance.

I will expect by return mail that you will give me the name of a psychiatrist or counsellor that you will be visiting who can assist you with therapy to overcome this problem. I will expect that you can obtain that name and schedule the first visit within 10 days after the receipt of this letter.

I will send Father <sup>REDACTED</sup> a copy of this letter as well as a copy of my previous note so you will be encouraged to undertake this counseling. Likewise, it will not be necessary for you to explain to him why you need the time and the funds.

All I can say is that failure to follow through on this ~~will xxxxxxxxxx~~ or we will see you here at the Abbey permanently in May. I know you do not wish this to happen, so you will undertake whatever steps are necessary.

With all my continuing love,

18743

REDACTED

ST. BENEDICT'S CHURCH  
1022 W. Cleveland Ave.  
Montebello, California 90640  
Phone 721-1184

Dear Father Abbot,

I was very shocked to receive your letter. I would like to know what I did to merit such a reprimand. If giving someone a birthday swat is considered wrong, then I am guilty. I always thought that was something you always do on a birthday.

Father Abbot, from the beginning of my religious life, I always had the understanding, from studying the rule, that one who was reprimanded in any way was to accept the reprimand without defending one self. And this is what I have always done. To defend one self was considered pride, and I have always accepted the accusations of others without complaint. I guess so much so that some times I ask myself "what am I doing wrong now?" even when doing something good.

I am looking for a psychiatrist at this time, and will inform you as soon as I make contact with him.

We are getting ready for Holy Week and the completion of our first RCIA class with the Baptisms of Holy Saturday. We have ten candidates who will be receiving the Sacraments at that time.

The tickets are out now for the spring festival. This year we are raffling a Chev Sprint.

A blessed Easter to you,

In St. Benedict,

*Malcolm*

May 18, 1985

Dear Father Mathias

At last, I have uncovered your letter of March 25th and will respond. As you can calculate, Father REDACTED died March 30th, so you can guess what happened to your letter and several others that got laid down beside my typewriter to answer. The pile just simply got higher.

You note shock at my request that you find a psychiatrist for counseling. I am sorry. The events just seemed to add up that this was something advisable ~~at this time~~ so that no major incidents should occur.

I doubt that I need to point out to you all the child abuse and child molestation cases filed these days. So when Father REDACTED informed me that a parent had complained, I took stock of all the information available to me, and decided on this course rather than ask you to return to the Abbey at that time. You know that neither of us desires that. But when I made the special trip out in December, you assured me nothing would happen. It is too close.

Also, I had to add up a previous history of something, not all of which I know about except by rumor. I never found out exact circumstances in Prague. There are rumors that float in the community about some difficulty you had years ago in Montebello and in Anadarko.

So, in short, I figured there may be some good and probably little harm. I can understand your reaction, but I ask your cooperation, as I know you have already given by this time. Certainly I wish you no harm, but only that your labors may be as productive as possible. I hope we will be able to discuss the results when you are here for the retreat--which comes now very soon.

Thank you for your ready cooperation and willingness to undergo this little penance. You are doing some very good work which is appreciated by many, especially Father REDACTED because it relieves him of some of the burden of responsibility. He is most grateful.

Looking forward to seeing you.

18735



# *Saint Gregory's Abbey*

May 30, 2002.

REDACTED

**Monsignor Craig A. Cox  
Vicar for Clergy  
3424 Wilshire Boulevard  
Los Angeles, California  
90010-2241**

**Dear Monsignor Craig Cox,**

I received your letter of May 14, 2002. I was not able to answer more quickly since I was on our community retreat and meeting days. I do remember you well. You were just beginning your studies in Canon Law.

I am also saddened that Mr. REDACTED has alleged abusive conduct against Fathers REDACTED and Matthias Fauve, former member of our community of St. Gregory's Abbey. Both are deceased.

You requested the assignments dates of these two Priest's ministry in the Archdiocese of Los Angeles. We had two parishes founded by the Benedictines: Our Lady of Lourdes in East Los Angeles, and St. Benedict in Montebello, California. Fathers REDACTED and Matthias served in both parishes.

According to our records the approximate dates of their service in the Archdiocese was as follows:

Fr. Matthias Fauve, OSB: Our Lady of Lourdes: 1953-59	
St. Benedict Parish: 1966-75.	18693
St. Benedict Parish 1983-1988.	
Fr. Matthias died January 30, 1988.	

REDACTED

For more accurate dates, one of the former associates suggested that the Baptism registry be reviewed. Usually associates would begin baptizing as soon as possible.

2

I will get in contact with REDACTED to discuss the types of ministry offered to abuse victims.

Before speaking or writing to Mr. REDACTED, I plan to consult Father REDACTED, since Mr. REDACTED has made references to extensive counseling, assistance for his medical costs and "providing for his family."

Thank you for the difficult work you are called to render.

Yours in Christ,  
REDACTED

18694